

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)


REC'D 05 MAY 2004

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference 31298-WO-U | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/BE 03/00129 | International filing date (day/month/year) 24.07.2003 | Priority date (day/month/year) 22.08.2002 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC F04C29/10, F04C29/10 | | |
| Applicant ATLAS COPCO AIRPOWER, NAAMLOZE VENNOOTSCHAP | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
- These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
 - II ☐ Priority
 - III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
 - V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI ☐ Certain documents cited
 - VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

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| Date of submission of the demand 06.02.2004 | Date of completion of this report 03.05.2004 |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016 | Authorized Officer Lequeux, F Telephone No. +31 70 340-4664 |



**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/BE 03/00129**

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

Description, Pages

1-13 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-6 as originally filed

Drawings, Sheets

1/3-3/3 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
☐ the claims, Nos.:
☐ the drawings, sheets:

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5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

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|-------------------------------|-------------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Yes: Claims | 1-6 |
| | No: Claims | |
| Inventive step (IS) | Yes: Claims | 1-6 |
| | No: Claims | |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims | 1-6 |
| | No: Claims | |

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/BE 03/00129

Re Item V

Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

Document BE-A-1012655 is considered as the most relevant prior art document and discloses a screw type compressor with a pressure regulating system comprising an inlet valve connected to a single acting piston.

The problem to be solved by the invention is to simplify the mounting and dismounting of the inlet valve by avoiding the use of a spring and still to allow a reliable control of the inlet valve.

The solution to this problem consists in the use of a double-acting piston dividing the valve cylinder in two closed chambers wherein the chamber on the side turned away from the inlet valve is connected to the inlet chamber of the compressor and wherein the chamber on the side of the inlet valve is connected to the inlet chamber of the compressor and also to the non-return valve.

As these specific technical features are not disclosed in BE-A-1012655 nor in any other prior art document, the combination of all the features of independent claim 1 is neither known nor rendered obvious.

Hence independent claim 1 and all dependent claims 2-6 fulfill the requirements of Article 33 PCT regarding novelty and inventive step.

Independent claim 1 and all dependent claims 2-6 also fulfill the requirements of Article 33 PCT regarding industrial applicability.